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ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY

NEWS

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ISSUED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

COLONEL GARDNER AND STAFF MEMBERS ADDRESS SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION MEETING

Colonel Leon L. Gardner, The Director, and Mr. Wyllis E. Wright, The Librarian, as well as Miss Helen H. Norris, Chief of Circulation and Reference Services, and Miss M. Ruth MacDonald, Chief of Cataloging of the Army Medical Library, presented reports on different phases of the Library's work at a meeting of the Biological Sciences Group of the SLA in Washington, 19 November 1946. In addressing the meeting, Colonel Gardner stressed the point that "a large portion of the civilized world no longer has the resources for medical knowledge it once possessed; that this Library and other large medical libraries represent very nearly the ultimate source from which the world can draw its research material."

WYLLIS E. WRIGHT TO BECOME LIBRARIAN OF WILLIAMS COLLEGE

Wyllis E. Wright, The Librarian of the Army Medical Library, has resigned to accept the position of Librarian of Williams College Library, Williamstown, Massachusetts, and will take over his new duties on 1 January 1947. Mr. Wright received his A.B. and M.A. at Williams and served there as Library Assistant from 1925 to 1927. From 1930 to 1933, he was Librarian at the American Academy in Rome. Later, after his return to this country, he became Chief Cataloger of the New York Public Library, a position which he held until 1945 when he came to the Army Medical Library as The Librarian, after a year's service as consultant in cataloging. During his stay, he has been instrumental in effecting many changes in the Library's operating procedures and has introduced a number of modern concepts into the Library's future planning.

Mr. Wright has taken an active part in numerous library affairs; he is Chairman of the ALA Committee on Aid to Libraries in War Areas, Secretary of the American Book Center for War Devastated Libraries, and was Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Union List of Serials, Second Edition. He is at present editing a translation of the Vatican Code which will be published by the American Library Association.

PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE

Since December 1940, the Army Medical Library has been providing a free photoduplication and microfilm service on a global basis in the interest of medical research. Although there is every wish to continue this free service, present conditions do not make it practicable to do so. Wartime needs made such a service imperative, but the volume has increased to such a degree of late that a revision of policy has become advisable.

To meet these changed conditions, a decision has been reached to make a nominal charge for photoduplication service, starting 1 January 1947. On a charge basis, more film can be made available, all requests can be filled, which accord with the conclusions reached by the special committee now studying the matter under the auspices of the Honorary Consultants at the request of The Surgeon General. This move will also place the Library in line with other Federal agencies which have always charged for similar services.

The following price scale has been set up:

MICROFILM: *Periodical Articles*—A flat charge of fifty cents for any article in a single volume. *Books and Serial Publications*—Fifty cents for each fifty pages or fraction thereof.

PHOTOPRINTS: Fifty cents for each ten pages or fraction thereof from any single volume.

METHOD OF PAYMENT: All charges are on the basis of cash with order. Only Federal agencies are exempted from this requirement. Payment may be made by cash or by check or money order drawn to the Treasurer of the United States.

A supply of Order Blanks will be available on request after 15 December 1946.

OPERATION NANOOK

Literature on frostbite, frozen extremities, immersion foot, hypothermia, dicoumarol, heparin, and related subjects has been furnished recently by the Reference Division of the Army Medical Library for Commander Harry Eisberg, M.C., soon to depart on Operation Nanook. Operation Nanook is made up of Task Force 68 under the command of Captain R. Curzen and consists of 3,000 men in 12 ships bound for the Antarctic where they will carry on investigations, particularly in photographic work and cold weather conditions, from January to the middle of March 1947.

HONORARY CONSULTANTS TO BE INCORPORATED

A committee consisting of Dr. Arthur C. Christie and Dr. Harold W. Jones of the Association of Honorary Consultants to the Army Medical Library are taking steps for the eventual incorporation of the Association. This move is being made as the result of a unanimous vote of the members at the recent annual meeting. It is felt that it will facilitate the handling of moneys which the Association has at its disposal, and it is also hoped that additional gifts and legacies will thus be encouraged.

COLONEL GARDNER SPEAKS ON MEDICAL CARICATURES

On 20 November, Colonel Gardner spoke before the Woman's Club of Alexandria on a selected group of medical caricatures from the Army Medical Library's collection. He discussed the development of the caricature and its medical significance in exposing the foibles and quackeries of Renaissance and later medical practice. Some of the artists whose work was shown included Daumier, Hogarth, Rowlandson, Cruikshank, Boilly, Jacques, and other caricaturists of the 18th and 19th centuries. As well as showing the originals, photographs of each print were circulated among the audience so that all might view the prints in detail.

NEW BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The Reference Division of the Army Medical Library has started work on the compilation of bibliographies on cancer, war neuropsychiatry, and diseases in relation to military operations. Because of the scope of the subjects, these bibliographies will not be completed for some time.

PERSONALS

Mr. Francis R. St. John, Chief of the Circulation Department, New York Public Library, and during the war Acting Librarian at the Army Medical Library, has been appointed Director of Library Service for the Veterans Administration. Mr. St. John will direct the work of over 150 libraries scattered throughout the United States. He will take over his new duties 1 January 1947.

Dr. Howard Dittrick, Director of the Howard Dittrick Museum of Historical Medicine (which is housed in the same building as the Cleveland Branch, Army Medical Library) gave a talk at the Cleveland Health Museum on 14 October. Dr. Dittrick's remarks were made at a special preview of an exhibition of medical caricatures collected by Dr. Clement C. Fry of Yale University.

At a meeting of the Regional Catalogers for Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, held in Baltimore, Maryland, 16 November, Mr. Wyllis E. Wright took part in a discussion on the relationship of the Division of Cataloging and Classification to the American Library Association.

VISITORS

The Army Medical Library's distinguished visitors from foreign countries during the past month included Lt. Col. E. G. Young, Office of the Director General of Medical Services, Canadian Army; V. V. Parin, General Secretary of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the U. S. S. R., and Major General S. S. Young, Dean of Army Veterinary College, Anshun, Kweichow, China.

Dr. Richard Hewitt, Head of the Division of Publications, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, also visited the Library.

The Cleveland Branch was visited during the past month by two doctors from distant places—Dr. E. P. Scarlett of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and Dr. Jorge Castro-Dugue of Bogotá, Colombia, South America.

IN PRAISE OF THE BOOKE

In Johann Jacob Wecker's A COMPENDIOUS CHYRURGIE, London, 1585, we find the following poem written by a friend of the author and lauding his work:

As litle Bee in Broyling heate,
  doth search the feildes about:
So litle Booke from Authors best,
  best medicins sucketh out.
As pretious pearle in litle roome,
  doth many vertues shroud:
So in this litle volume is,
  much secret knowledg shewed.
As litle Sphere by due recourse,
  doth heavens hygh unfold:
So in this litle booke thou maist,
  the wounde and cure behold . . .
As glittering Sunne with his bright hiew
  doth other Starres deface:
So where this booke doth once appear
  it others doth displace . . .
Then honie tast, buy pretious pearle,
  viewe spheere that turneth fast:
Feare loadstone force, walk by Sunne light,
  eate fruite that aye doth last.

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